

BENJAMIN A. GILMAN  
20th District, New York

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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-3220

GOVERNMENT REFORM

SUBCOMMITTEES:  
POSTAL SERVICE  
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AND HUMAN RESOURCES

*Original to  
120010614009*

*125190*

June 12, 2001

Ms. Jane Garvey  
Administrator  
Federal Aviation Administration  
800 Independence Ave, SW  
Washington, DC 20591

*FAA-01-9852-25  
FAA-01-9854-20*

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Dear Ms. Garvey:

I am writing to comment on the "Notice of Alternative Policy Options for Managing Capacity at LaGuardia Airport" which was released by the FAA on June 7, 2001 in the Federal Registry. I welcome the proactive approach which the FAA has adopted in addressing the increasingly untenable air traffic situation in the metropolitan New York area.

The citizens of New York's 20<sup>th</sup> Congressional District whom I represent are directly and indirectly effected by the air traffic problems which largely emanate from LaGuardia Airport. These air traffic problems negatively impact the economic and social conditions of my district, the region, and the nation as a whole. Accordingly, I wholeheartedly agree that alleviating the transportation pressures at LaGuardia and the other major airports in the region should be a top priority of this Administration.

The "Notice of Alternative Policy Options" referred several times to encouraging the use of alternative New York area airports in order to alleviate the air traffic demand at LaGuardia. While Stewart International Airport was not explicitly mentioned in the report, it is already widely recognized as a viable alternative to the major airports in the region. As you may be aware, Stewart International Airport was the first privatized airport in the United States. It is ideally located within driving distance of the major urban and suburban centers of the Tri-State area. Recent acquisitions of advanced radar and other air traffic equipment have allowed Stewart to handle overflow from LaGuardia, Newark, and JFK more effectively than in the past. Moreover, Stewart officials have been working with the INS, Customs, and the Department of Agriculture to create the necessary infrastructure to handle international charter flights.

PLEASE REPLY TO:

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I sincerely hope that the FAA will look to Stewart International Airport as a priority alternative airport to LaGuardia, Newark, and JFK. I believe it is time to recognize the full potential of this underutilized airport. Please do not hesitate to contact my office should you need further information on Stewart International Airport. I thank you for your kind attention to this letter.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ben A. Gilman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ben" and last name "Gilman" clearly distinguishable.

BENJAMIN A. GILMAN  
Member of Congress

BAG:jdn